



**MINUTES – MEC REGULAR MEETING
4:00P.M, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015
PIMA COUNTY LIBRARY LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM,
101 N. STONE AVE., TUCSON, ARIZONA**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Bill Ardern, Dr. Mary Jan Bancroft, Dennis Barger, Dr. Kent Barrabee, Diego Martinez Barrera, Steve Freeman, Molly Gilbert, Javier Herrera, Amber Mathewson, David Nicholson, Jo Riester, Dr. Alan Storm, Dr. Kasey Urquidez, Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Patricia Wiedhopf.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Dr. Louis Albert, Dr. Linda Arzoumanian, Richard Elias, Deborah Embry, Teri Laguna, Paul Lovelis, Vicky Mullins, Aaron Myers, Dr. Daisy Rodriguez Pitel, Regina Romero, Jennifer Sprung.

NON-COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: David Rodriguez, Edward Nossem.

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ
The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.
- 2.0 ROLL CALL – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ
Roll call was conducted; a quorum was established.
- 3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ
The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was recited by all attendees.
- 4.0 APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 18, 2015 MEETING MINUTES – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ
Motion to approve: Steven Freeman
Second: Javier Herrera
Motion carried 14- 0.
- 5.0 APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ
Motion: Dr. Alan Storm
Second: David Nicholson
Motion carried 14-0.

6.0 UPDATE ON REGIONAL COLLEGE ACCESS CENTER – DAVID RODRIGUEZ & AMBER MATHEWSON

David Rodriguez updated the Commissioners on the Regional College Access Center's activities. The RCAC has greatly increased its service range and is busier than ever before. For the 2014-2015 school year, we have 13 Student Ambassadors at Pima County high schools, over 600 FAFSA's have been completed, and there have been 11,396 RCAC website hits. The full report is available from the MEC office.

Amber Mathewson presented on library activities; David has been working with Michelle Simon at the Library. Student Ambassadors are hired as library pages and trained in library functions. They are available for one-on-one drop ins, and promote the program at their schools. The Library will also be holding 2 FAFSA Nights, as well as low-cost SAT and ACT classes. Students are hired from their respective neighborhoods; computer instructors are also trained on the use of the RCAC website.

7.0 ARIZONA STATE BUDGET: EDUCATION

Dr. Alan Storm gave a presentation on the effects of the state education budget cuts will have on JTED. Afterwards there was significant discussion about the cuts' effect on K-20 education and its long-term ramifications. It was suggested that the MEC advance two Resolutions – one concerning JTED and the other concerning K-20. In order to get the Resolutions to the Tucson Mayor & Council, Pima County Board of Supervisors, school superintendents, legislators, etc., the Commission voted on whether to allow the MEC Executive Board to approve the final drafts of the Resolutions.

Motion to allow MEC Executive Committee to approve final draft of Resolutions:

Dr. Kent Barrabee

Second: Javier Herrera

Motion carried 14-0.

8.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ

8.1 Budget – Bill Ardern

Mr. Ardern called attention to the Executive Directors Report and current MEC funding and proposals. The City of Tucson has confirmed that the MEC will be funded in the 2015-2016 city budget. We have received \$2,000 from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for the Regional College Access Center.

8.2 Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon – Dr. June Webb -Vignery

The 25th Annual Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon will take place on Friday, May 8th, 2015 at the Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel, 7350 S. Nogales Highway. We have 18 tables so far; there are: **Gold Sponsor:** Pima County School

Superintendent's Office; **Patron Sponsors:** Anonymous

Table Sponsors: Amphitheater Unified School District; Arizona School Boards Association; Bill Ardern; Breault Research Corporation; Catalina High School Foundation; CenturyLink;

CORE Construction; Richard Elias Pima County Board of Supervisors District 5; Joint Technological Education District (JTED); League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC);

Sunnyside Unified School District; Tech Parks Arizona; Tucson Urban League; University of Arizona Enrollment Management; June Webb-Vignery (MEC); Wells Fargo Bank.

All of the Honorees have been selected and contacted. They are: LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - Sam Polito; EDUCATION ADVOCATE AWARD – Former Tucson Mayor Bob Walkup; EDUCATION ADVOCATE AWARD - Pima County Supervisor Richard Elías; TEACHER AWARD – Kevin Kehl, Andrada Polytechnic High School, Vail USD; COUNSELOR AWARD – Eve Rifkin, City High School; CORPORATE AWARD – League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC); YOUTH AWARD – Onelio Madrid Calderon, Pueblo High School. The Save-The-Date cards have been mailed, and the invitations will be mailed soon. Former MEC Commissioners are being invited to attend.

8.3 Appointments –Paul Lovelis (Not present)

No action.

8.4 YAC/TTC – David Nicholson & Diego Martinez Barrera

The Student Advocacy Day took place on Wednesday, March 4th, 2015; 20 YAC/TTC members and 9 student representatives from schools that had attended the Teen Town Hall, and 7 adult chaperones attended, along with the video crew of Media Source America who shot video of the day's events. The youth committees met with the Chair of the Senate Education Committee, the Vice-Chair of the Senate Education Committee, the Vice-Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, and a member of the House Health & Human Services Committee, as well as 7 members of the Southern Arizona Legislative Delegation.

The YAC/TTC Executive committee has selected the 10 Outstanding Teen Citizens; they represent Amphitheater (2), Andrada Polytechnic, Basis Charter, Cholla, Cienega, Presidio, Pueblo, Sunnyside, and Tucson High Schools. They will be presented to the Tucson mayor & Council at the Tuesday, April 21st Mayor & Council meeting, and recognized at the Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon.

YAC/TTC members will be recruited to volunteer for the LULAC Conference which takes place on Friday, March 27th at Pima Community College West Campus.

8.5 Issues –Pat Wiedhopf - No action.

8.6 Regional College Access Center – David Rodriguez

Please see Agenda Item 6.0.

8.7 Key to Employment – Ed Nossem

We have received the \$5,000.00 Sponsorship from the Thomas R. Brown Foundation. For the 2016 event there is a possibility that the event and workshops will be telecast to other regions of the state through the Arizona Telemedicine Program.

9.0 CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No action.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ

Motion to Adjourn: Javier Herrera

Second: Molly Gilbert

The motion passed 14-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.